### **Decade: 2005-2015**

#### THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION 'WATER FOR LIFE'

The United Nations General Assembly, in December 2003, proclaimed the years 2005-2015 as the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life'. Its primary goal is to promote efforts to fulfill international commitments made on water and water—related issues in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/

# February 2, 2012

World Wetlands Day: Theme is Wetlands and Tourism

http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-activities-wwds-wwd2012index/main/ramsar/1-63-78%5E25324 4000 0

#### March 10, 2012

Bottled Water Free Day <a href="http://www.bottledwaterfreeday.ca/">http://www.bottledwaterfreeday.ca/</a>

# March 11-17, 2012

National Groundwater Awareness Week

Site: http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx EXIT Disclaimer

### March 12-18, 2012

Fix a Leak Week

#### March 22, 2012

World Water Day - http://www.worldwaterday.org/

#### March 11-17, 2012

National Groundwater Awareness Week

http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/awareness/Pages/default.aspx

# March 18-24, 2012

National Poison Prevention Week - Related to water through proper hazardous waste and medication disposal. <a href="http://www.poisonprevention.org/">http://www.poisonprevention.org/</a>

### March 31, 2012 at 8:30 PM

Earth Hour <a href="http://www.earthhour.org/">http://www.earthhour.org/</a>

#### April

**Environmental Awareness Month** 

### April – Week of the new moon (April 21, 2012)

National Dark-Sky Week (NDSW), held during the week of the new moon in April, is a week during which people worldwide turn out their lights in order to observe the beauty of the night sky without light pollution. Energy production has been identified on a national scale and titled the water-energy nexus as energy production uses a large amount of water.

### April 22, 2012

Earth Day <a href="http://www.earthday.org/">http://www.earthday.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.epa.gov/earthday/">http://www.epa.gov/earthday/</a>

### May 6-12, 2012

**Drinking Water Week** 

http://www.awwa.org/Government/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3862&navItemNumber=3863 http://www.cdc.gov/Features/DrinkingWater/

# May 2012

Water Conservation Day

The State of Texas has celebrated a Water Conservation Day during the month of May. This would be a good day to also celebrate here to raise awareness about our finite water supply. There are other water conservation days, around the US, but none are official and they all fall on different days. We can choose a day or a week in May to recognize the importance of Water Conservation.

#### May 18, 2012

Bike-to-Work Day. A way to reduce your water and carbon footprints.

# May 22, 2012

World Biodiversity Day: 2012 Theme is Marine Biodiversity

The International Day for Biological Diversity (or World Biodiversity Day) is a United Nations–sanctioned international day for the promotion of biodiversity issues.

#### June 2012

**Great Outdoors Month** 

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-proclamation-great-outdoors-month

#### June 5, 2012

World Environment Day (WED): 2012 Theme: Forests: Nature at your service

A day that stimulates awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and public action. <a href="http://hqweb.unep.org/wed/">http://hqweb.unep.org/wed/</a>.

#### **June 17**

UN World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought <a href="http://www.unccd.int/">http://www.unccd.int/</a>

### June 25, 2012

Global Water Dances http://www.globalwaterdances.org/index.html

#### **August**

National Water Quality Month

Check EPA website for more information as the date nears.

# August 21-27, 2012

World Water Week <a href="http://www.worldwaterweek.org/">http://www.worldwaterweek.org/</a>

# August (every 3<sup>rd</sup> Week)

Unofficial World Tap Water Week

### September (Date not confirmed for 2012)

Protect Your Groundwater Day http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx

# **September 16, 2012**

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer designated by the United Nations General Assembly.

# September 16-18

Clean Up the World Weekend

http://www.cleanuptheworld.org/en/Activities/clean-up-the-world-weekend.html

# September 18, 2012

World Water Monitoring Day http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/

This one is great because you can order kits that kids can use to test the water (rivers/lakes) near their house. Additionally, this could be used by school science classes to discuss pH and water quality parameters.

# September 22, 2012

World Car Free Day encourages motorists to give up their car for a day. Utilizing other forms of transportation can reduce our water and carbon footprints.

# September 2010 (Date not confirmed for 2012)

National Pollution Prevention Week <a href="http://www.epa.gov/p2week/">http://www.epa.gov/p2week/</a>

# September 25 (Date not confirmed for 2012)

National Estuaries Day <a href="http://www.estuaries.gov/GetInvolved/Default.aspx?id=526">http://www.estuaries.gov/GetInvolved/Default.aspx?id=526</a> and <a href="http://www.estuaries.org/national-estuaries-day.html">http://www.estuaries.org/national-estuaries-day.html</a>. The Mississippi Estuary can be positively or negatively impacted by the activities we do on the land in McHenry County.

# September 29 - last Sunday

World Rivers Day

http://commons.bcit.ca/worldriversday/

#### October

First Monday in October is National Child Health Day. October is Child Health Month. http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochp/ochpweb.nsf/content/chm2010.htm

#### October

October is National Kitchen and Bath Month Water Sense

### **November 15**

American Recycles Day <a href="http://americarecyclesday.org/">http://americarecyclesday.org/</a>

### **December 5**

World Soil Day